



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/712,074	11/13/2003	Richard Allen Gill	2002-106-TAP	7921

7590 05/02/2006

Timothy R. Schulte
Storage Technology Corporation
One StorageTek Drive
Louisville, CO 80028-4309

EXAMINER

RODRIGUEZ, GLENDA P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2627

DATE MAILED: 05/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/712,074

Applicant(s)

GILL, RICHARD ALLEN

Examiner

Glenda P. Rodriguez

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 February 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Contreras et al. (US Patent No. 5, 995, 306).

Regarding Claim 1, Contreras et al. teaches a method for writing data in a tape drive, the method comprising:

Allocating a blank area for transpose writing on a magnetic tape (Col. 47, L. 50-55, wherein the spare frame is destined for recording use);

Writing a first plurality of data sets on the magnetic tape adjacent to the allocated blank area, wherein the tape drive maintains full operating speed during intervals between writing successive data sets, resulting in spaces between the data sets (See Fig. 38 and Col. 48, L. 9-29, wherein the target frame is written in a blank area. It is inherent that when performing a write operation, the tape reels must move at full operating speed in order to write efficiently.);

And performing a single repositioning of the tape at a specific interval and writing a transposed data block to the allocated blank area, wherein the transposed data block contains the same content as the first plurality of data sets (Col. 48, L. 9-29, wherein the

target frame is re-written in the spare frame if the target frame proves to be defective.

See Fig. 38, wherein it teaches that the data is adjacent from each other.).

Apparatus claims (5) is drawn to the apparatus corresponding to the method of using same as claimed in claim (1). Therefore apparatus claim (5) corresponds to method claim (1), and is rejected for the same reasons of anticipation as used above.

Computer Program claim (9) is drawn to the computer program corresponding to the method of using same as claimed in claim (1). Therefore computer program claim (9) correspond to method claim (1), and is rejected for the same reasons of anticipation as used above.

Regarding Claim 2, 6 and 10, Contreras et al. teach all the limitations of Claim 1, 5, and 9, respectively. Contreras et al. further teaches allocating a second blank area for transpose writing adjacent to the transposed data block (Col. 4, L. 3-8).

Regarding Claims 3, 7 and 11, Contreras et al. teach all the limitations of Claim 1, 5 and 9, respectively. Contreras et al. further teach wherein the data written on both the first plurality of data sets and the transposed data block is stored on a buffer (Col. 48, L. 19-21).

Regarding Claim 4, 8 and 12, Contreras et al. teach all the limitations of Claims 3, 7 and 11, respectively. Contreras et al. further teach wherein the size of the blank area allocated for transpose writing is determined by the size of the data buffer and a specified data transfer rate (Col. 38, L. 61-67).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection due to the newly amended Claims.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Glenda P. Rodriguez whose telephone number is (571) 272-7561. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday: 7:00-5:00; alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young can be reached on (571) 272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2627

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


gpr
04/26/06
WAYNE YOUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER